

"possible that its range may extend to *Anticosti*, or even to *Labrador*," he believing that many of the migrants of this species he saw at the Magdalens came from further north.—J. A. ALLEN, *Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., New York City*.

Bonasa umbellus in the Alpine Region of South Carolina.—The more recent writers on South Carolinian ornithology have regarded the occurrence of the Ruffed Grouse in the State as an open question. While on an ornithological tour to the mountainous portions of Pickens County, during the past summer, I had a good opportunity to learn something of its local abundance and distribution. About Mt. Pinnacle (the highest point in the State, 3,436 feet) and Table Rock (3,000 feet), I found it a common bird, ranging from the valleys of the Saluda and Oolenoe up the mountain sides to their summits. Later in the season I traced the 'Pheasant' to the King's Mountain chain (a part of which lies in York County), where, although not common, it is well known to everyone. Several years ago I saw a mounted specimen in the collection of the late Dr. Marshall of Greenville, which was said to have been taken in that county. From the foregoing, it is reasonable to infer that the habitat of the Ruffed Grouse in South Carolina is co-extensive with the Alpine region of the northwestern border counties—a wedge-shaped area, extending from King's Mountain on the east to the Georgia line on the west, having a length of about one hundred and fourteen miles, and a breadth of from eight to twenty-one miles.—LEVERETT M. LOOMIS, *Chester, S. C.*

The Type Specimen of *Colinus ridgwayi*.—In my recent paper on this species (*Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., Vol. I, No. 7, p. 276*) I referred to the original type specimen of the Masked Bob-white (*Colinus ridgwayi*) as being in the collection of Mr. F. Stephens. I was subsequently informed that it had been sent to the British Museum, and on the strength of this information added an *erratum* to this effect. I have now learned that the specimen is not in the collection of the British Museum but in that of Mr. G. Frean Morcom, of Chicago, who recently purchased it of Mr. Stephens.—J. A. ALLEN, *Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., New York City*.

A Red-headed Black Vulture.—During my first visit to Charleston, South Carolina, in May, 1883, I was one day watching the Black Vultures which, at certain hours, congregated by hundreds in the streets and on the house tops about the city market, when my attention was attracted to one that differed from all others of its kind that I had hitherto seen in having the entire bill yellow and the bare skin of the head and neck uniformly red, similar to, but of a duller tint than, the head of *Cathartes aura*. That the bird was not a Turkey Buzzard but, on the contrary, either a Black Vulture or something very near it, was evident from its flight and the shape of the wings and tail. I suspected that it might be a hybrid, but there was no way of securing the specimen at the time and I never saw it again.

Through Mr. Wayne's kindness, however, I have just come into posses-

sion of a similar—if not the same—bird taken at the Charleston market in August, 1886. Mr. Wayne bought this specimen for me from the taxidermist who mounted it and who, unfortunately, is able to furnish no precise information respecting the color of the soft parts in life, save that "the head was red like a Turkey Buzzard's." In the dried specimen the bill is dull straw-color, the bare skin of the head and neck yellowish-brown, the legs, feet and claws pale brownish-orange. The head and neck are also tinged with purple, but this is evidently the result of a clumsy attempt to reproduce the original color, for the dye has stained some of the feathers as well as a portion of the tow protruding from the eye socket. In all other respects—excepting that the bill is unusually depressed and the fifth primary on each wing white to its base—the bird agrees perfectly with average specimens of the Black Vulture. That it is merely an abnormally colored example of that species is sufficiently obvious, but its peculiarities are certainly at once interesting and curious.—WILLIAM BREWSTER, *Cambridge, Mass.*

The Swallow-tailed Kite in Rensselaer County, New York.—In my collection is a specimen of an *Elanoides forficatus*, mounted by Mr. William Gibson, of Lansingburg, N. Y., who told me that he received the dead bird July 17, 1886, from Mr. Griffin Haight, and that by dissecting the bird he found it was a male. Its plumage is that of an adult, and is in partly worn and moulting condition. Wing, 15.6 inches; tail, 11.6, with fork, 5.6.

Mr. Haight has a little house on a newly cleared acre, in the border of a large wood-lot in the eastern part of the town of Pittstown, about sixteen miles northeasterly from the city of Troy, and there breeds fancy fowls which run about freely in the clearing and adjacent woods. He informs me that Hawks trouble his fowls and carry off some chickens, and on the morning of July 16 he staid at home to clean out a few of the Hawks, and had shot three, and just fired at another, when he was surprised to see, flying up from the woods by the clearing, a Swallow-tailed Kite, such as he had formerly seen in South Carolina. The Kite flew away and was gone about twenty minutes when it came down and lit on the dead stubby top of a tree by the clearing. After a few minutes, it flew up out of sight, but in about thirty minutes came down again and sat on the same dead tree-top for about seven minutes; it then flew up again out of sight. About fifty minutes later, *two* Kites came down together and lit on the same dead tree stub. As he started toward them the largest Kite flew away in a flash, and as he went nearer the other Kite darted up overhead; he fired and killed it, and sent the dead bird to Mr. Gibson to be mounted.

Mr. Haight informs me that he has since seen one or more of the Kites around a pond in a swamp of about four hundred acres, within two miles of his house; once on July 29, and several times on August 9. He also saw at a distance, on dead ash trees standing in the swamp, three or four birds having the appearance and flight of Kites, and they alighted like